

**PARTICIPATION BY QUALIFIED PERSONS IN THE  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY'S DRIVER RECORD  
MONITORING PILOT PROGRAM**

**CHAPTER 263**

H.B. No. 1699

**AN ACT**

relating to the participation by qualified persons in the Department of Public Safety's driver record monitoring pilot program.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

SECTION 1. Sections 521.062, Transportation Code, is amended by amending Subsections (b) and (j) and adding Subsections (b-1) and (b-2) to read as follows:

(b) Under the pilot program, the department *shall*:

(1) ~~[may]~~ enter into a contract with *any* ~~[a]~~ person *qualified* to provide driver record monitoring services, as described by Subsection (c); ~~[;]~~ and

(2) *provide* certain information from the department's driver's license records to the person *as provided by this section*.

(b-1) *A person is qualified to provide driver record monitoring services* ~~[;]~~ if the person:

(1) *has submitted an application to the department;*

(2) ~~[(1)]~~ is an employer, an insurer, an insurance support organization, an employer support organization, or an entity that self-insures its motor vehicles; and

(3) ~~[(2)]~~ is eligible to receive the information under Chapter 730.

(b-2) *The department may not limit the number of qualified persons participating in the pilot program.*

(j) The department *shall accept and consider applications* ~~[may establish a reasonable deadline by which a person must apply]~~ to enter into a contract with the department under this section *until the conclusion of the term of the pilot program* ~~[and may not enter into a contract with a person who fails to apply before that deadline]~~.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

Passed by the House on April 17, 2017: Yeas 128, Nays 16, 3 present, not voting;  
passed by the Senate on May 19, 2017: Yeas 29, Nays 2.

Approved May 29, 2017.

Effective May 29, 2017.

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**AWARD OF COURT COSTS AND ATTORNEY'S FEES IN  
ACTIONS TO DETERMINE THE APPLICABILITY OF  
CERTAIN LOCAL GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS**

**CHAPTER 264**

H.B. No. 1704

**AN ACT**

relating to the award of court costs and attorney's fees in actions to determine the applicability of certain local government regulations.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

SECTION 1. Section 245.006, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Subsec-

tion (c) to read as follows:

*(c) A court may award court costs and reasonable and necessary attorney's fees to the prevailing party in an action under this chapter.*

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

Passed by the House on April 28, 2017: Yeas 135, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 19, 2017: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved May 29, 2017.

Effective May 29, 2017.

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**ESTABLISHING AND FUNDING A GRANT PROGRAM FOR  
TESTING EVIDENCE COLLECTED IN RELATION TO SEXUAL  
ASSAULTS OR OTHER SEX OFFENSES; AUTHORIZING  
VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS**

**CHAPTER 265**

H.B. No. 1729

**AN ACT**

**relating to establishing and funding a grant program for testing evidence collected in relation to sexual assaults or other sex offenses; authorizing voluntary contributions.**

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 521, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 521.012 to read as follows:

**Sec. 521.012. VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION FOR EVIDENCE TESTING GRANT PROGRAM.** *(a) When a person applies for an original or renewal driver's license or personal identification certificate under this chapter, the person may contribute \$1 or more to the evidence testing grant program established under Section 772.00715, Government Code.*

*(b) The department shall:*

*(1) include space on the first page of each application for an original or renewal driver's license or personal identification certificate that allows a person applying for an original or renewal driver's license or personal identification certificate to indicate the amount that the person is voluntarily contributing to the grant program; and*

*(2) provide an opportunity for the person to contribute to the grant program during the application process for an original or renewal driver's license or personal identification certificate on the department's Internet website.*

*(c) The department shall send any contribution made under this section to the comptroller for deposit to the credit of the evidence testing account established under Section 772.00716, Government Code, not later than the 14th day of each month. Before sending the money to the comptroller, the department may deduct money equal to the amount of reasonable expenses for administering this section.*

SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 522, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 522.0295 to read as follows:

**Sec. 522.0295. VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION FOR EVIDENCE TESTING GRANT PROGRAM.** *(a) When a person applies for an original or renewal commercial driver's license under this chapter, the person may contribute \$1 or more to the evidence testing grant program established under Section 772.00715, Government Code.*